

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit
Project Summary

Task Agreement #:

Project Title: Visitor Use Monitoring for Glacier National Park

Discipline: Social

Type of Project: Technical Assistance/Research

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana

Student Participation: yes

Effective Dates: June 1, 2021-December 31, 2025

Funding Amount: \$50,356.95

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract:

Project goals: As visitation has grown in Glacier National Park and the surrounding area, steps have been taken to manage visitors and use levels in the corridor that have ripple effects throughout the rest of the park. Understanding visitor use trends related to use, experience, and impacts can help inform sound management decisions that are adaptable to changing conditions including the COVID-19 pandemic.

Project objectives: To assess annual visitation patterns and compare that with long-term trends of visitor use of Glacier National Park. To assess backcountry, use levels, including day use and overnight as well as front country visitation in popular areas of the park. This information will be used to develop both immediate and long-term management actions to assure protection of resources and providing a quality visitor experience.